

TUE FANS AWAIT BOWIE OPENING—GRIFFS FIRST DIVISION CONTENDERS

Griff's Club Rounding Into First Division Contenders

By GEORGE L. MORELAND.

Miami, Fla., March 28.—Clark Griffith's "pennant hopes" turned their strides northward today, for a week of barnstorming through the Carolinas with the Cincinnati Reds. When the club arrives in the Capital next Saturday they should be in shape to give the Washington fans a treat. In the five games with the Cincinnati Club, the Nationals have played by far the best baseball. Indeed, Griffith's hired men look more like world champions than the tribe from Rhineland.

The Old Fox is well satisfied with the club, and although he refuses to predict anything, he is frank in stating that when he gets the right combination into working order he will make many of the prospective flag-winners hustle for honors.

Just one month ago the National rookies boarded the rattler for the south. Griffith's proposition, at that time, looked up as big as a "White Elephant," but during the thirty days of drilling he has uncovered youngsters that may fill the bill in rounding out a first division club for the Capital City fans.

Infield Problem.

The problem of the infield was the biggest question which the Old Fox was called upon to solve. Griffith believes that this part of his troubles is settled. From the form and speed that Stanley Harris is showing at the second sack, and Jimmy O'Neil at short, Griffith was not compelled to look any further for material, providing this pair can keep up their wonderful stick-work. They are hitting the pitching served up by the Cincinnati twirlers for a far better well, but it remains to be seen if they will be as successful against the twisters which they will be compelled to face under the Ban B. Johnson test.

The pitching problem, which also looked anything but bright, is also righting itself. Shaw and Johnson are sure to be in the pink of form when the going sounds in Boston on April 14. The poor showing the smoke-ball king made last Friday against the Moran-men was only an off-day, as Korney, his better shape right now than he has been during any recent spring drill.

Expect Big Season.

The big fellow is not the kind to boast of his ability but he stated the other day that he intended to work his head off to make this the best season of his career. With Erickson as the third veteran for the mound, the Old Fox has only to carve out two twirlers for his long string of youngsters to make up one of the best staffs in the league.

It is a hard matter right now to pick the best looking ones from the crowd as the work of Zachary, Courtney, Carlson and Schacht has been of high order. Whether these youngsters can stand up under the bombardment of the willows handed out by the American League clubs remains to be seen, but the fact that they are in the line of the various camps down here in Dixie are picking six clubs to be in front of the Nationals when the final curtain is run down.

First Division Club.

With the catching department now intact, and the outfield like one of those "queen's taste" dishes, the club as a whole rounds out now like pennant contenders, although the Old Fox is confident that he is hitting the various camps down here in Dixie are picking six clubs to be in front of the Nationals when the final curtain is run down.

Sometimes it is a matter of cooled. The Nationals as they now line up are a great deal better than four clubs which I could name. Although it is no foregone conclusion, with the writers that the Cleveland Indians will romp in with the bunting, and that New York, Chicago, Detroit and St. Louis will be the contending runners-up, it is not to make a prediction here, that the Nationals will be hot-footing right in among this five next September.

Wait Two Bill.

The day of rest today, after the long grind of the past week was a welcome one. Auto rides and a tag-dance tonight were the bill of fare.

The big double-header is to be staged tomorrow. The Washington club will hook up with Robbie's Brooklyn Dodgers, while the Redlegs will try and pick on the New York Yankees. With Babe Ruth and Walter Johnson in action, the game will be a world-class event, the largest crowd of the barnstorming trip will no doubt watch the battles.

President Griffith received word tonight that Stan E. Johnson will win the game. All that is needed now to make the party a peace jubilee is to have Miller Huggins send Carl Mays to the mound. After the battles the team will hop aboard the rattler for the Capital City, where Tuesday's game will be played.

Metropolitan Meets Brown on Thursday

Charlie Metropolitan, the Greek champion light-heavy-weight grappler, who successfully defeated Joe Jack Garrison to meet Soldier Brown of the Sixty-third Infantry in a finished match at the New York Theater Thursday night.

Metropolitan issued a den after the Turner match to take on any grapple that Manager Garrison could obtain. Soldier Brown, who was at the ringside, accepted the challenge. Brown is of a powerful physique and cut quite a figure in the army wrestling circles while with the A. E. F. He was induced to take up boxing, but has proven a failure before the local fans in this line. He has been training at the mat game for the past month and has been signed by Manager Garrison to meet the local sport followers by halting Metropolitan's victorious strides.

Denies Seeing Pictures.

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School Nines to Play.

Western and Tech baseball nines will meet this afternoon for a practice game, while Central High team engages the fast Georgetown Prep nine at 5:15 on the Hilltop diamond.

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Turf Followers Ready for Bowie Track to Open

The Maryland racing season, for which Eastern followers of the sport have been waiting all winter, will be inaugurated on Thursday, April 1, at Bowie, where will lead off with a thirteen-day meeting. This will be the start of what promises to be one of the greatest seasons the turf has enjoyed in many years. The three Maryland tracks which will conduct spring meetings will distribute a gross sum of \$100,000 to horsemen, \$100,000 of this being offered at Bowie. The Bowie meeting will be followed by those at Havre de Grace and Pimlico.

Because of the rigorous winter and backward spring, which has retarded the training of thoroughbreds in the North and East, the Southern Maryland Agricultural Association has not closed any stakes at all, and the Harford Agricultural and Breeders' Association has closed only four of \$5,000 each. The Maryland Jockey Club, however, offers the \$30,000 Preakness for 3-year-olds and \$5,000 events that promise to be highly attractive in the Green Spring Valley Steeplechase, the Maryland Oaks and the Pimlico Spring Handicap, along with a couple of \$2,500 2-year-old specials that will bring to the post some smart youngsters.

The purses at Bowie and Havre de Grace will be generous. Bowie's overnight events will range in value from \$1,000 to \$1,500 and Havre de Grace from \$1,200 to \$2,500. Nor will these early meetings be as badly off for first class racing material wherewith to fill these specials as was feared some three or four weeks ago. There has been little or no frost in the ground since the first of March and much useful work has been accomplished by trainers who have been working their charges over the Bowie, Pimlico, Benning, Laurel and Havre de Grace courses.

To Divide Rich Stakes in Races At Hilltop Track

Baltimore, March 28.—Forty-two thousand five hundred dollars worth of stakes—five in all—to be decided in the course of the Maryland Jockey Club's spring meeting at Pimlico track, May 1 to May 15, inclusive—will close on April 1 with William P. Riggs, Pimlico's secretary and executive whose office is in room 250, Equitable Building, Baltimore.

These stakes, with the \$2,500 Pimlico Nursery, a sprint of four furlongs and a half for 3-year-olds that closed last fall, will be the salient features of fifteen days of racing at Maryland's oldest and most picturesque course that will be made up by the distribution among horsemen of \$193,000.

The stakes are the \$30,000 Preakness, a race of one mile and a furlong for 3-year-old colts and fillies, that will be run on May 18, ten days after the running of the Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs; the \$5,000 Pimlico Spring Handicap, for 2-year-olds and over, on May 5; the \$5,000 Green Spring Valley Steeplechase, two miles, to be run May 8; the \$2,500 Pimlico Juvenile, for 2-year-olds, on May 12, and the \$5,000 Pimlico Oaks, for 3-year-old fillies, one mile and a sixteenth, to be run May 15.

The gross value of these stakes will be in the neighborhood of \$50,000. No entrance fee will be charged in any of the races, but the \$2,500 Pimlico Nursery, which is an added money of \$25,000, must pay \$500 each, starters in three \$5,000 events must pay \$100 each, and starters in the \$5,000 Pimlico Oaks, \$250 each. Pimlico Nursery will be the opening day's feature.

JAVELIN SEVERELY INJURES STANSBURY

Morgantown, W. Va., March 28.—Director of Athletics Harry A. Stansbury had a most remarkable escape from death here this afternoon on the West Virginia University athletic field when a javelin, hurled more than 100 feet by a member of the track squad, struck him in the neck. The shaft pierced the neck on the right side and came out directly beneath the chin. Only the fact that the arrow point passed between the jugular vein and the carotid artery saved his life.

THREE VETERANS ON YALE VARSITY CREW

New Haven, Conn., March 28.—Coach Guy Nickalls, of the Yale rowing squads, who recently took personal charge of the oarsmen, has selected a tentative first varsity crew which includes three members of last year's varsity eight. The Yale crew has been chosen as follows:

Stroke, Peters; No. 2, Ellis; No. 3, Payson; No. 4, Benson; No. 5, Moulton; No. 6, Dennis; No. 7, Hord; bow, Mail.

EDDIE EAGEN WINS FROM PENN STAR

New Haven, Conn., March 28.—Eddie Eagen, captain of the Yale boxing team and the national amateur heavy-weight champion, won the decision over Heine Bourne, of Pennsylvania, in a three-round bout which featured the Yale-Penn dual glove meet last night.

JUNIOR LEAGUES WILL HOLD MEETING

There will be a meeting of the Junior Baseball League Friday night at 7:30 p. m. in the office of the Washington Herald. All teams desiring to play league baseball are urged to have a representative present.

N Street Stars Win.

The N Street Stars slaughtered the Trinity Midgets yesterday afternoon, 30 to 2. The feature of the game was the home run made by Wyncoop for the winners.

Clymer's Club in Shape, Expects to Win Pennant

Albany, Ga., March 28.—Not in fifteen years has any Columbus baseball club rounded to as quickly as have Billy Clymer's 1920 Senators, who bid fair to be many laps ahead of several other clubs when the association pennant chase opens April 14, with Clymer's men at Louisville.

Terminals After Games.

The Terminal A. C. would like to arrange a game with any fast team averaging 125 pounds. Address all letters to Joseph A. Collier, 211 K street northeast.

America's Olympic Team--By Homer Baker

WHEN YOUNG MCGRATH TOSSED THE SLEDGE-HAMMER IN 1915 IN IRELAND, HE NEVER DREAMED OF WORLD FAME.



MATT MCGRATH. THE SLEDGE-HAMMER IN 1915 IN IRELAND, HE NEVER DREAMED OF WORLD FAME.

District Roller Skaters to Race in Championship

Followers of the professional roller skating game around Columbus, Ohio, where the world's championship meet is to be held April 4 to 11, were pleased to note the entries of H. W. "Hoggie" Colston and Jack Woodworth, Eastern and Southern champions, respectively. Colston and Woodworth are both Washington boys and the wisecracks are granting the former along with Rolfe Birkheimer of Columbus an even chance of wrestling the honors from Roland Cloni, the present world's champion.

In a recent match race in Columbus, Colston showed excellent form in easily defeating Charlie Wilson, also a top in the game, and won himself a host of admirers and boosters for the title honors. Previous to this Colston closed a week's engagement in Connellsville, Ky., where he was defeated by the local champion, but returned an easy winner in all events.

COLLYER'S COMMENT on the SPORT OF THE KINGS

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That little old second hand had a busy day yesterday. All the boys were holding up the rails. From morning chow time until the beddings were made just before sundown. What the gang clocked in will be handed to you between now and the opening but don't let any of the wise ones lead you off "Doc" Drake's sleeper, as Ormonda is keyed up to the minute and what this old pickler will do at the inaugural will set you right for the many hog-killings I will hand out while the ponies are in Maryland.

Seeing is believing. Having seen and heard the ticks placed against some of these smart tricks, I am convinced that Bowie is my right spot, so stick along and give the old High Cost of Living the naughty hah-hah.

Here's a little advance on a few likely looking picklers:

Ballad.—This is the clocker's diamond special. Now, I would like to go into all details relative to the game, but I am a poor judgment prevails. The only thing I care to add is, that unless plans miscarry, the ground will be strewn with dead "geese" the day the goods hop to it.

Betsaida.—Out of the old pickle vat old boy Penwick intends to yank this baby very shortly. Betsaida wintered at Bowie, is better advanced than the majority of the pack through the battle at New Orleans. My advice is stick to this one in your hatband.

Crystal Ford.—Now, I'm not going to tell all I know about this one. Suffice to say that Andy Wisely has plans about completed for a genuine melon-cutting and the medium of the plunge will be Crystal Ford. He also has Tantalus stepping right along in morning trials.

Murphy.—He was given a special prep just before leaving New Orleans and as a result is cherry ripe. Stepped a half this morning around 50 seconds with the boy sitting straight up in the saddle. The whole world knows "Murr" likes the Bowie track.

Kentucky Derby.—Here's a little advance of the big blue grass classic. Straight from the feed box comes the ink. That Prince "Pal" won't make the Derby. Has proven himself to be a sprinter pure and simple. So hedge if you've already played him. On the other hand have a care what you do with Dennons. That's the real dark horse for the big race.

Rej Juniors Land.

The Rej Juniors baseball team opened the season with a victory over the Clover A. C. yesterday afternoon, 10 to 7, on the New Jersey avenue diamond. The pitching of Lewis was easily the feature of the contest as he held the Southeast lads to hits. He also hit four times at bat. Score by innings:

Linnworths, 9; Parks, 6.

Linnworth's A. B. H. P. A. Parks A. B. H. P. A. Linnworth's A. B. H. P. A. Parks A. B. H. P. A. Linnworth's A. B. H. P. A. Parks A. B. H. P. A.

New Golfing Term Of Southern Caddie

New York, March 28.—Golf terms are used by dusky-headed caddies on Southern links, according to a golf devotee who has just returned here, when they "roll the bones" in "African golf." He gathered the following glossary while listening to the talk of a flock of negro caddies absorbed in craps during a dull hour: Par, seven or eleven; Bogey, two, three or twelve; Stymie, four and ten. In the bunkers, five and nine; and easy putts, six and eight.

Miami Wants Games.

The Miami Athletic Club would like to hear from any team in or around the District who are desiring practice games. Address all communications to Manager H. Kidwell, 2267 Nichols avenue southeast.

Grand Old Man of Athletics Sure to Make Olympic Team

By HOMER BAKER.

Next summer, when the steamer sails with America's greatest athletic warriors to defend the Stars and Stripes against the world in the Antwerp Olympiad, Matt McGrath, the grand old man of athletics, will not probably be among them. If so, he will enjoy the most singular distinction in the history of American athletics—it will be his third Olympic trip and he will be the oldest of the athletes, being 41 years of age.

Experts agree that McGrath has seen his best days, but the fact remains that he is the most scientific of the great weight throwers in the world today. McGrath is counted on to score heavily for Uncle Sam in the weight events. He stands six feet in his stocking feet, weighs 230 pounds and is good natured. He is a police lieutenant in the regulation of traffic at City Hall, New York, a member of the New York Athletic Club and a proud father of a fine-looking 17-year-old daughter, now studying for a civil service position.

Born in Ireland.

Matt was born in Ireland and the first thing that he can remember was his bringing up on a farm in Tipperary. His mother taught him that he must take good care of his body and to strive for its perfection continually.

He did numerous chores about the farm, ploughed the fields, rode horseback, played in football and hunting matches, shot some of the best hunted hares and rabbits. Every day, except on the Sabbath, he had to travel six miles afoot to and from school. Before he was 18 years old he was one of the fastest sprinters in Ireland. To this day Matt has lost none of his old-time speed. Only last year Matt won a 100-yard dash, closed to policemen weighing more than 200 pounds, at Witzel's Grove. He defeated Pat McDonald, world's greatest shot-putter, and the time for the run was 12:35 seconds.

Saw Mitchell Win.

His first instinct to throw the hammer was when he saw big Jim Mitchell win the Irish championship, back in 1885. The hammer in those days had a wooden handle three feet six inches long with its iron head. Matt at once thought of his father's eight-pound sledge hammer and proceeded to make good use of it. He would hurl the sledge around the farm for hours. To test his ability, he arranged impromptu contests with every blacksmith he knew in his home vicinity. But by blacksmiths were defeated with ease, and they looked in awe at the performances of young McGrath. In those hardy days of out-door life he unconsciously laid the foundation for the tremendous strength that is serving him well now in the seven-foot circle.

McGrath came to America when he was 19 years old, joined the police force and the Police Athletic Club, where he boxed, wrestled and ran to satisfy his passion for exercise.

Watched Stars Work.

A friend took him to see a set of games at Travers Island, and there he got his first glimpse of John Flanagan in action. McGrath thought that Flanagan was about the greatest man in the world. Matt remembered his "throwing the sledgehammer" days and longed to be out on the turf throwing the hammer against the famous world champion. McGrath also got his first look at Martin Sheridan throwing the discus, weight 160 feet, 2 inches. He carefully noted their actions and aspired to be the champion of them all.

Winn Junior Champ.

In 1907 Matt entered the Junior National Championship in the 16-pound hammer throwing event and won with ease, doing 161 feet, 2 inches. Experts picked Matt as the coming hammer toser and he was induced to join the New York Athletic Club. Later McGrath displaced John Flanagan's record with a mighty throw of 173 feet, 11 inches.

In 1908 Matt competed for the United States team at the London Olympiad with a dislocated kneecap, and finished second. In 1911 he booted Flanagan's hammer mark from 154 feet to 187 feet, 4 inches, and established several new records. In 1912 he won the Olympic hammer throwing event at Stockholm, Sweden. McGrath holds the world record.

World's Record.

16-pound hammer (Olympic record, 173 feet, 6 inches).
56-pound weight (7 foot circle), 40 feet, 6 1/2 inches.
56-pound weight (from stand), 33 feet, 1 inch.
56-pound weight for height, (indoors), 16 feet, 3 inches.
56-pound weight (unlimited run and follow), 43 feet, 1 1/2 inches.

Canadian Records.

16-pound hammer—182 feet 4 inches.
56-pound weight—40 feet 6 1/2 inches.

He won the national championship with the 16-pound hammer in 1908, 1910, 1912 and 1918. With the 56-pound weight (for height) he won the national championship in 1907, 1909 and 1911; for distance he won in 1913, 1916 and 1918. Besides that, he has won numerous metropolitan championships.

McGrath is a good eater and relishes everything. Eggs, beef, potatoes, beans, chicken and bread form the biggest part of his diet.

McGrath is looking for his next Olympic trip with pride and delight. Immediately after the games he will visit his father, mother and the aged blacksmith who aided the youth who later startled the world with superhuman weight-throwing feats.

Tales of a Wayside Tee

GRANTLAND RICE

We have floundered through the sleet and snow to the edge of April, where just beyond, there is a green carpet underfoot and a blue canopy overhead.

So it is only a question now of a short while before we will be meeting our old friends, the acquaintances and boon companions of many springs and summers.

Old friends and boon companions such as the sand trap. How much like home it will seem to stand again in the sand with a quivering nibble and a quivering soul while our opponent proudly extends his chest out on the fairway where he has a fine lie and an easy pitch to the green.

Old Friends.

Deep down in his soul the average citizen likes opposition and trouble, and this is one reason why he likes golf.

Trouble is an old friend in this game. In addition to the bunker there is the "Heel Print" in the bunker, and the "Cuppy Lie" out in the open. There is "Out of Bounds" to the right; "High Grass" to the left; and "Water Hazards" in front. And there is "Old Dog Splice" and "Professor Hook" and attentive little playmates.

Not to forget "Lost Ball," one of the most attentive of all the lot.

These will all be encountered shortly, including "Colonel Bogey" and "General Alibi."

Starting the Season.

Starting the season the golfer recalls the fact that there are many things for him to remember this year.

He intends to keep his eye on the ball; to keep from swaying the body; not to hurry his swing, and a dozen other things.

But one of the main devices he must take up is to cultivate comfort and naturalness.

Grip and stance in the main are both merely a matter of comfort. That which feels natural is almost sure to be right; that which doesn't feel natural is almost sure to be wrong.

Any time a rigidity assails the golfer he is doomed. There is no need in hurrying through, but the golfer who insists on fussing over each stroke or standing rigidly for several seconds before he swings, hasn't any more chance to play good golf than he would have to drive a cannon ball with a feather.

The Training Season.

The two big championships at Pinehurst wind up the first stages of the 1920 campaign.

The north and south open and end to the winter book.

So far Walter Hagen, the open champion, has a fair margin on

BOWIE RACES

13 DAYS

April 1st to April 15th Inc.

7 RACES DAILY

Special Trains Leave White House Station at 1:15, 1:30 and 1:40 P. M.

Admission, \$1.25 Ladies, \$1.15 (Including War Tax)

FIRST RACE, 2:30 P. M.